



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)
Post Office Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-6898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: 19 March 2003
EXPIRATION DATE 19 April 2003
REFERENCE NUMBER: O-1976-0098
WATERWAY NUMBER Chatham Strait 80

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), 333 Raspberry Rd Anchorage, Alaska 99518, agent: Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, 1308 Sawmill Creek Road, Sitka, Alaska 99835-9702, Attn: Mr Lon Garrison, 907-747-6850.

LOCATION: section 2, T. 54 S., R 66 E., Copper River Meridian, along the eastern shore of Baranof Island, ~30 airmiles east of Sitka, Alaska (Longitude 134° 52' 4" Latitude 57° 13' 00")

WORK: To perform upgrades and construct new features to the existing facility. The proposed work consists of the following:

- 1 Raise the lagoon dike from 10 foot from mean low low water (MLLW) to 11 foot above MLLW by adding approximately one foot of concrete. The upstream face of the dike would be reinforced by adding a geotextile liner, covered with 12" of 2"-minus gravel and capped with 12" riprap rock. The liner and riprap would be keyed into the substrate for re-enforcement. The spillway and fish access point would be redesigned for easier regulation of pool height and pool maintenance. The finished toe-to-toe area of impact would be ~0.09 acres filled with ~170 cubic yards of rock. (see Figures 4, 6, 7, 8)
- 2 Construct a 140-150 linear foot fishway that would be extend seaward of the lagoon dike. The fishway would be made up of 14 pools measuring 10 foot by 10 foot with an approximately 0.65 foot rise between them for a total lift of approximately nine feet. The rock for the fishway would be obtained from intertidal cobble, from blasting of intertidal bedrock and riprap from quarries in Angoon or other quarries. The rock pools would be stabilized with epoxy grout suitable for marine environments. Construction of the fishway would cover (or disturb) approximately 0.07 acres of intertidal substrate with approximately 75 cubic yards of rock (intertidal cobble and imported material). (see Figures 4, 9, 10)
- 3 Expand an existing aluminum pool and weir fishway ladder from four foot to eight foot in width; replace an existing culvert under the service road near the top of the ladder with a concrete bridge (see Figures 4, 11).

- 4 Construct new "pole" type building to serve as coho and Chinook incubation and house start tank round ponder under cover. Remove two existing linear raceways and several "swede" ponds and replace with 20, 16-foot diameter by 4-foot deep round ponds for initial fry rearing. (See Figure 4, 12)
- 5 Outside the chum incubation building and along the southeast side of the existing round pond field, replace the existing 4-foot wide by 60-foot long ponding raceways with the two large linear aluminum raceways from item #4 and plumb appropriate for complex. (see Figures 4, 12)
- 6 Install a new 16 inch diameter by 960 foot long water line and intertie to serve the chinook saltwater rearing complex. The pipeline would be buried within the existing fill footprint to a depth of 4 feet, day lighting to Kasnyku Bay just above the HTL and resting on the substrate until reaching the net pens where the pipeline would raise to the water surface. (see Figure 4, 12)

PURPOSE: To increase the coho smolt production and provide better recruitment of adult chum salmon for the hatchery, and maintain/update the existing facility.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Components 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 would require work within waters of the U.S. below the high tide line.

MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to de-water the lagoon before starting work on the dike and would work on the fishway only during low tide. All equipment would be operated from the dike or from intertidal bedrock.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Management and Budget, Division of Governmental Coordination has concurred with the applicant's certification.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There is a registered or eligible property in the vicinity of the worksite. It has been designated SIT-0011, Hidden Falls. Because it has been determined to be outside of the project area, no further action is required. Consultation of the AHRs constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with SHPO. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and the Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*), listed as endangered and threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), respectively. Preliminarily, it has been determined that the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the ESA of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the NMFS. EFH for 10 species, arrowtooth flounder, dusky rockfish, halibut, pacific cod, pacific ocean perch, shortraker rougheye rockfish, sablefish, sculpins, skates, walleye pollock (three life stages) and yelloweye rockfish, was identified near the project area. However, we have preliminarily determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION None

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all those factors, which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Dr. Jan Stuart at (907) 753-2720, toll free in Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at jan.f.stuart@poa02.usace.army.mil, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities

(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States -
Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(x) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States -
Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest
review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean
Water Act (40 CFR 230).

() Transport dredged material for the purpose of dumping it into ocean waters -
Section 103 Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C.
1413). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the criteria
established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection, Research
and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended (40 CFR Parts 220 to 229), as appropriate

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska
Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality
Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

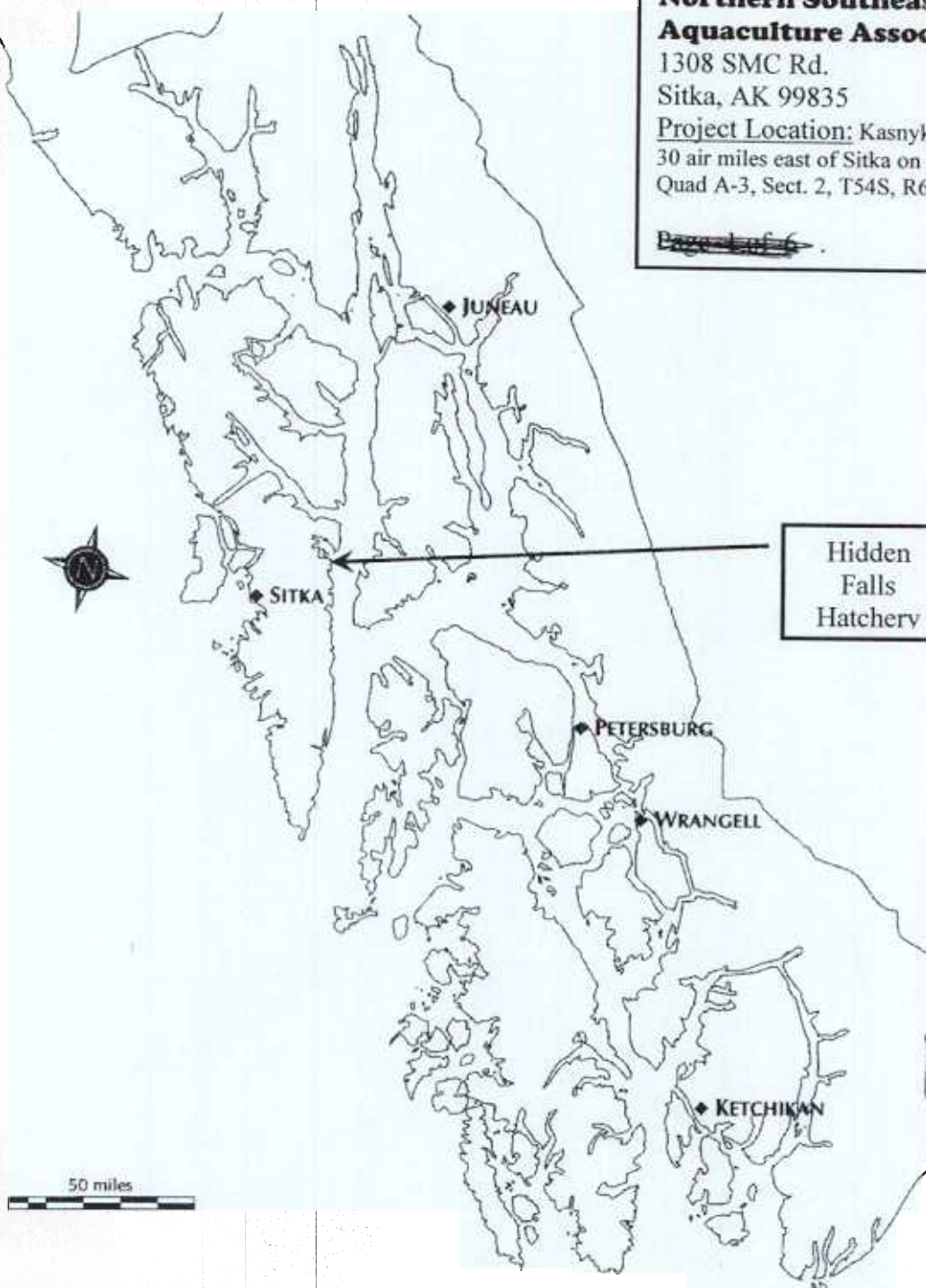
Attachments

**Northern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association**

1308 SMC Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835

Project Location: Kasnyku Bay, Chatham Strait,
30 air miles east of Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS
Quad A-3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

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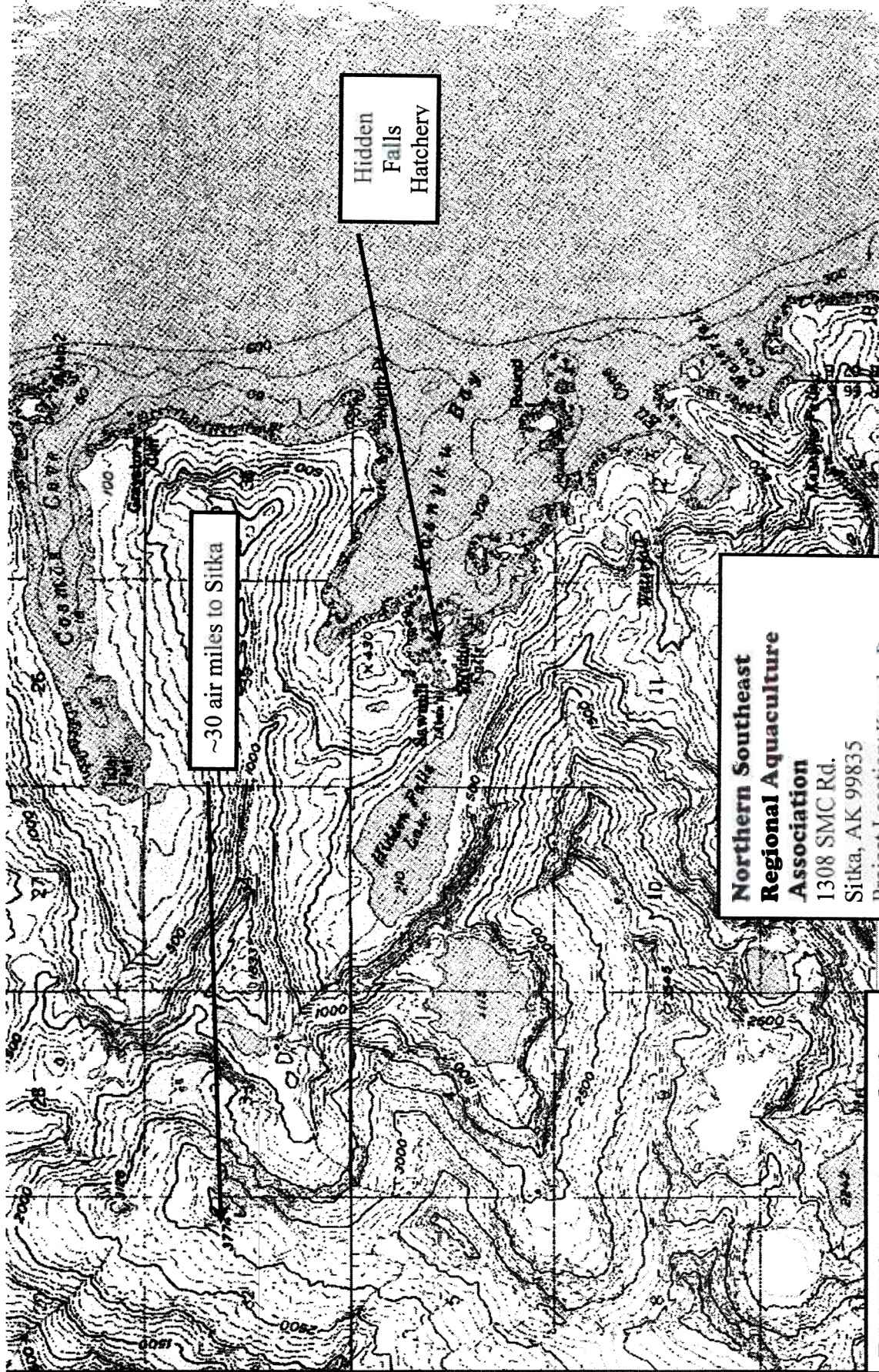
Vicinity Map for the Hidden Falls
Hatchery Coho and Chinook
Expansion Project

Date: 2 January 2003

MAP © ALISON MITCHELL, 1995

ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion

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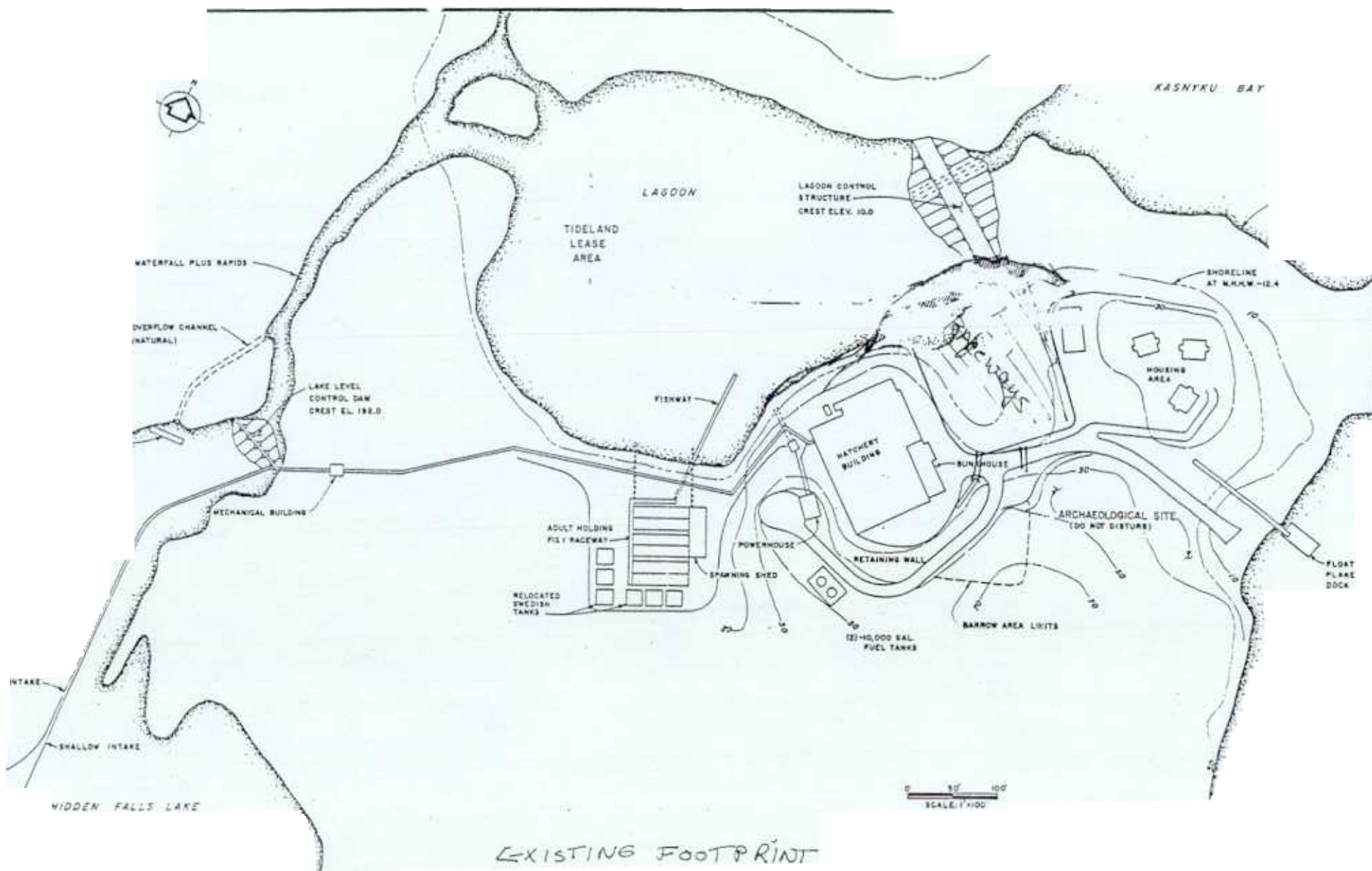


~30 air miles to Sitka

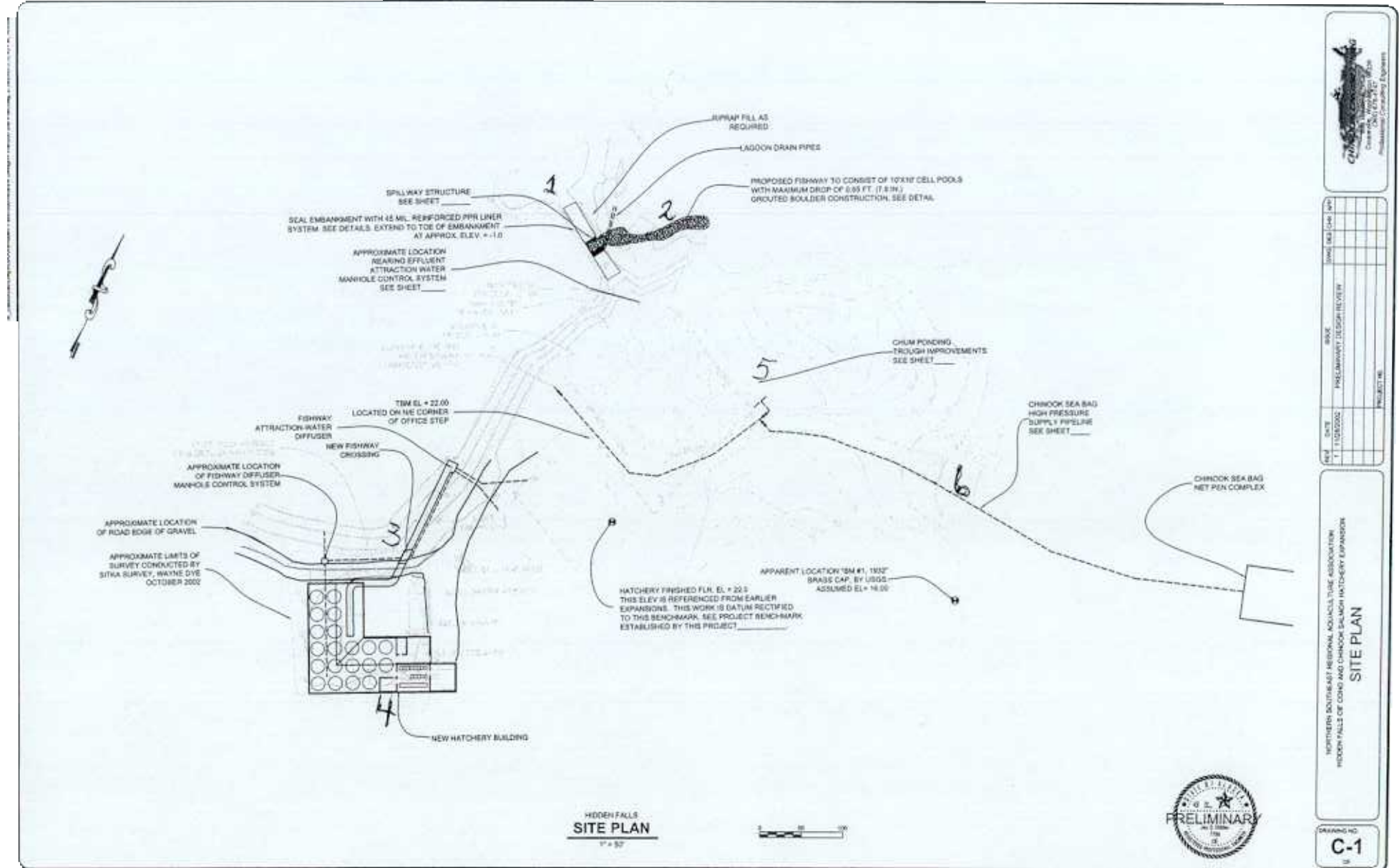
Hidden
Falls
Hatchery

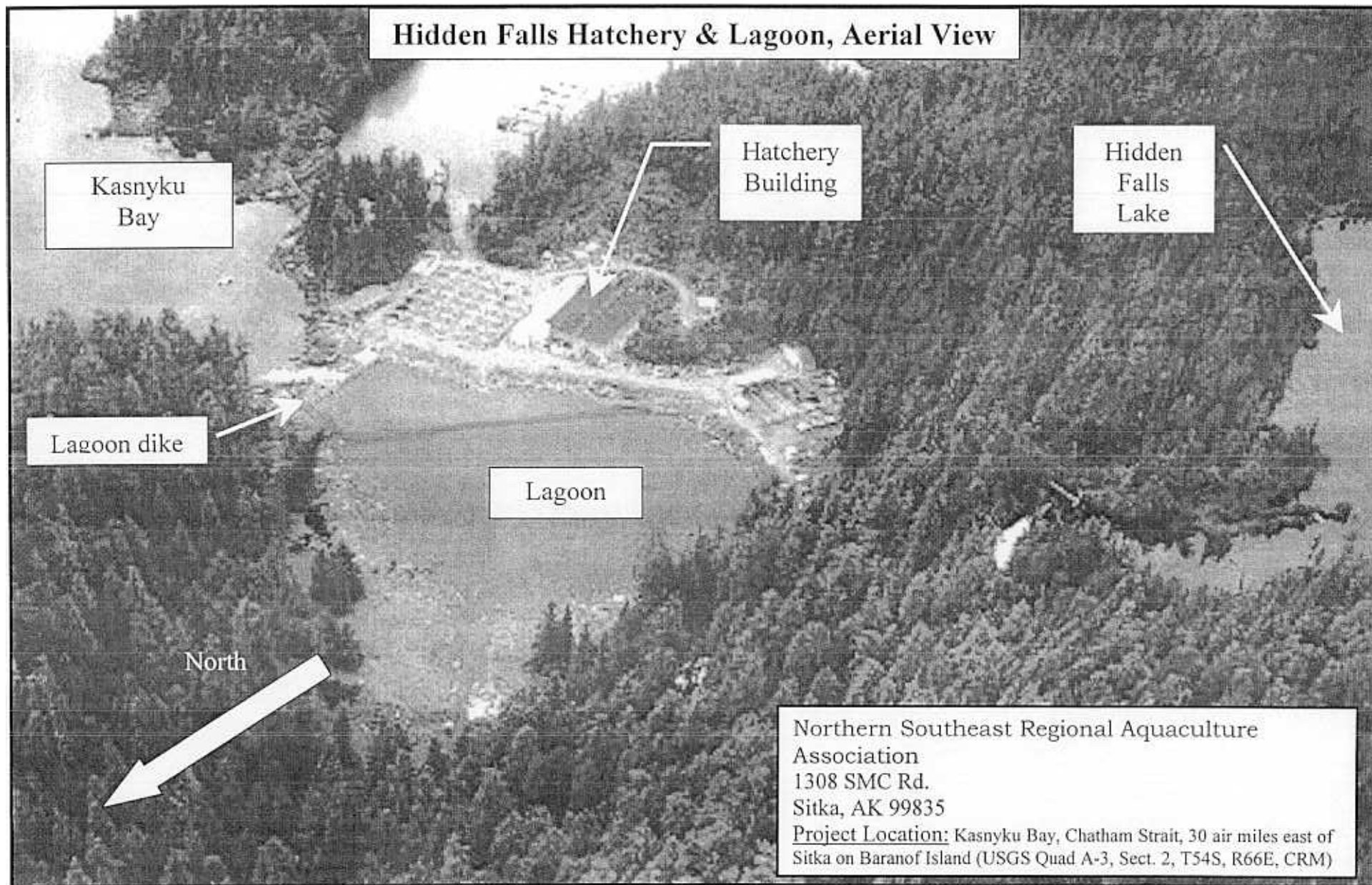
**Northern Southeast
Regional Aquaculture
Association**
1308 SMC Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835
Project Location: Kasnyku Bay,
Chatham Strait, 30 air miles east of
Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS Quad A-
3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

Topographic vicinity map for the
Hidden Falls Hatchery Coho and
Chinook Expansion Project
Date: 2 January 2003



ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion
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Hidden Falls Hatchery & Lagoon, Aerial View

Kasnyku
Bay

Hatchery
Building

Hidden
Falls
Lake

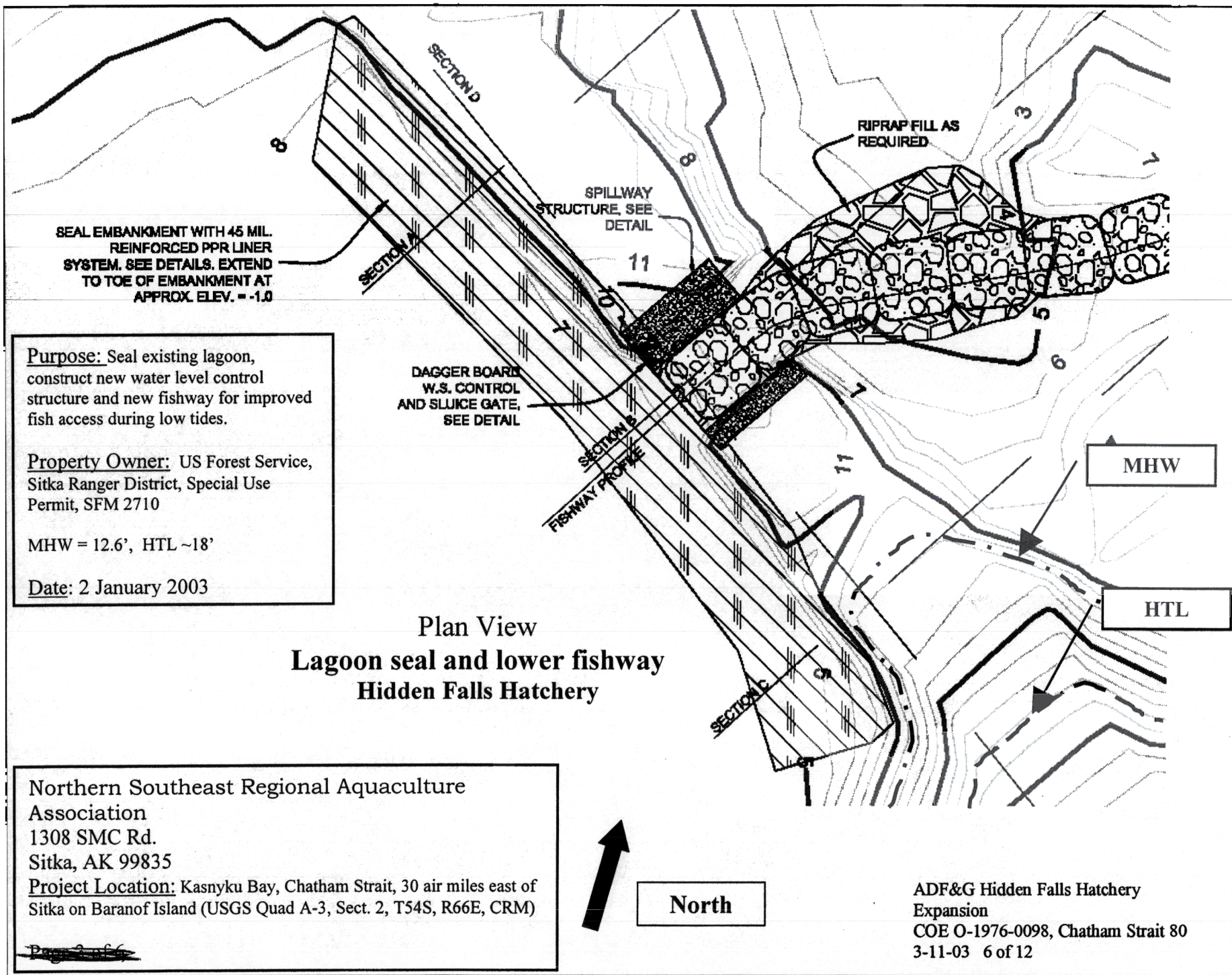
Lagoon dike

Lagoon

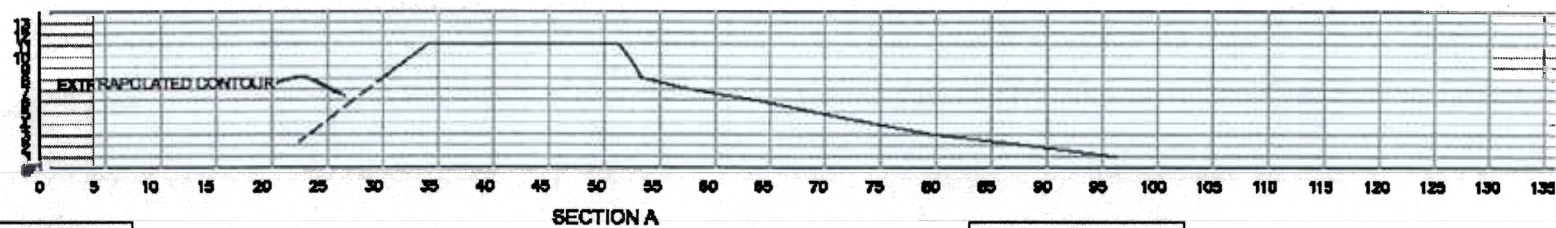
North

Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture
Association
1308 SMC Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835

Project Location: Kasnyku Bay, Chatham Strait, 30 air miles east of
Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS Quad A-3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

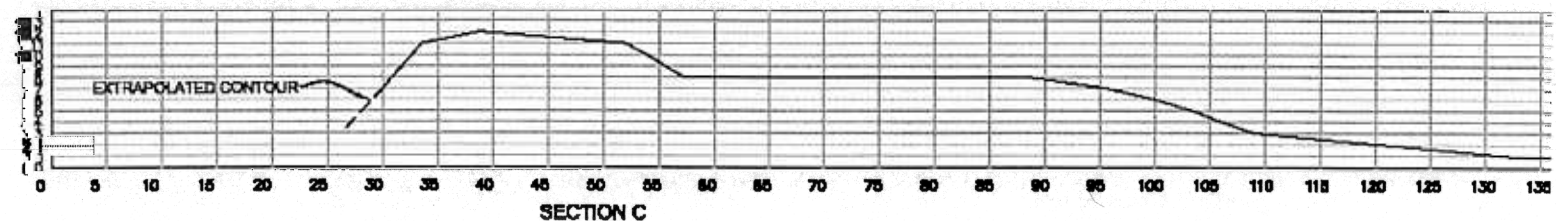
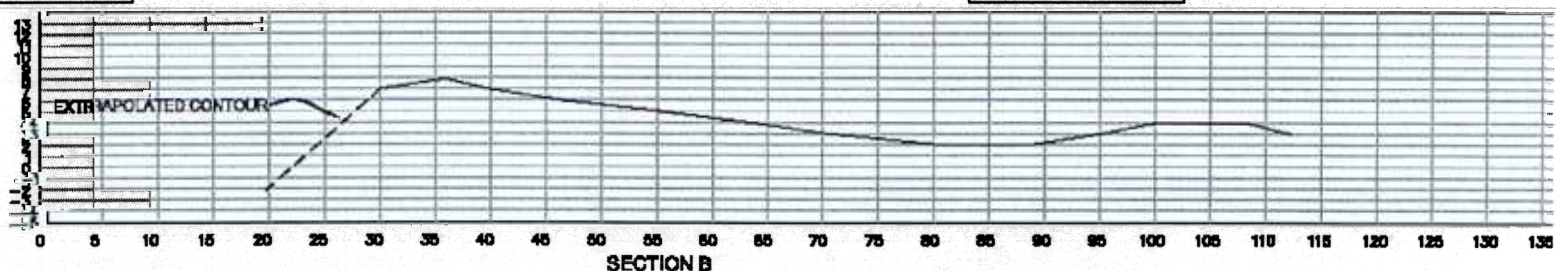


Cross Section Elevations for Stations A, B, & C



Upstream

Downstream

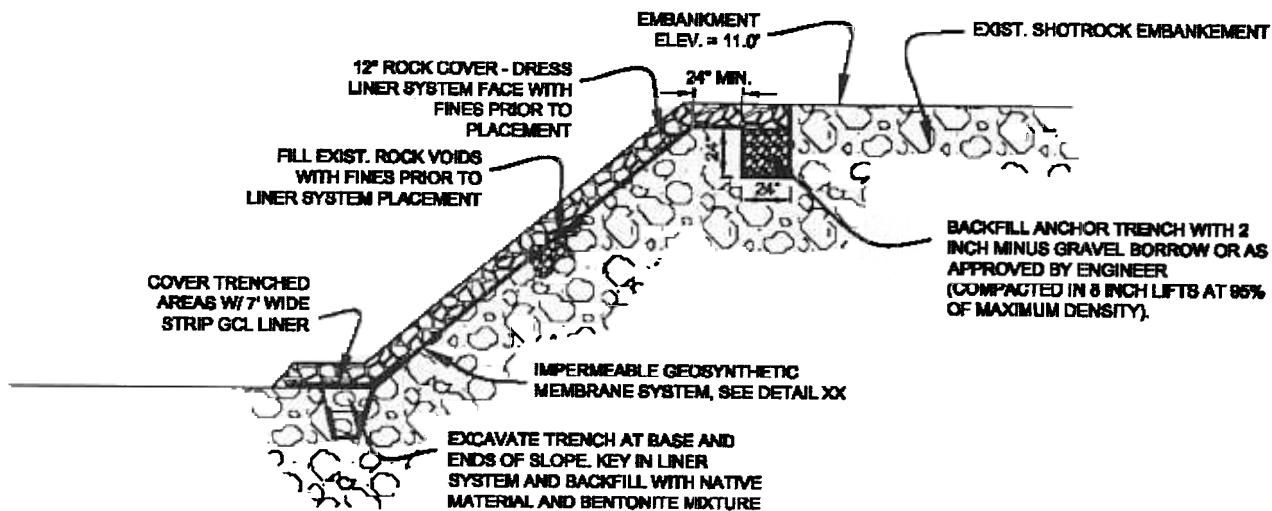


Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture
Association
1308 SMC Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835

Project Location: Kasnyku Bay, Chatham Strait, 30 air miles east of
Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS Quad A-3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

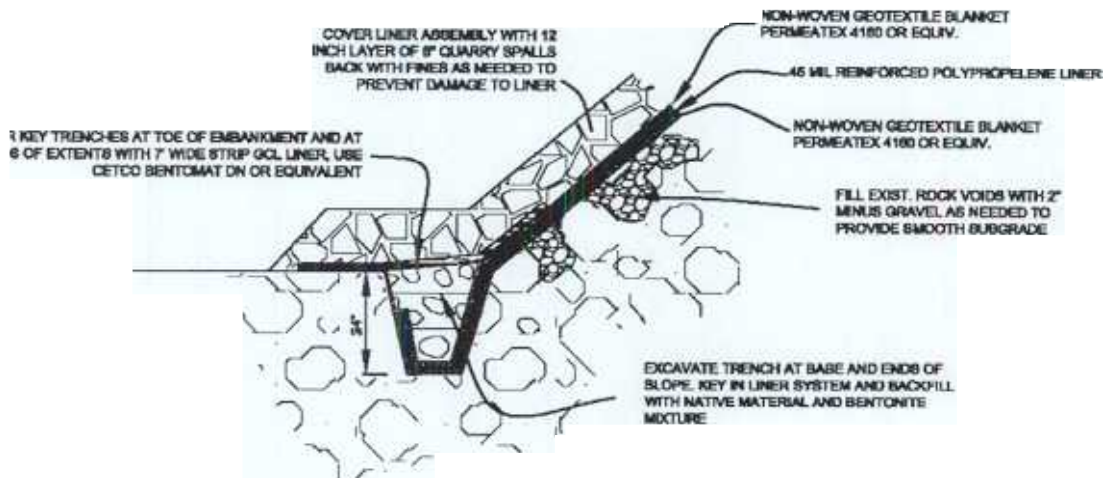
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ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion
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HIDDEN FALLS POND EMBANKMENT SECTION

1" = 5'



HIDDEN FALLS LINER CONFIGURATION DETAILS

1" = 5'

Purpose: Seal existing lagoon, construct new water level control structure and new fishway for improved fish access during low tides.

Property Owner: US Forest Service, Sitka Ranger District, Special Use Permit, SFM 2710

Date: 2 January 2003

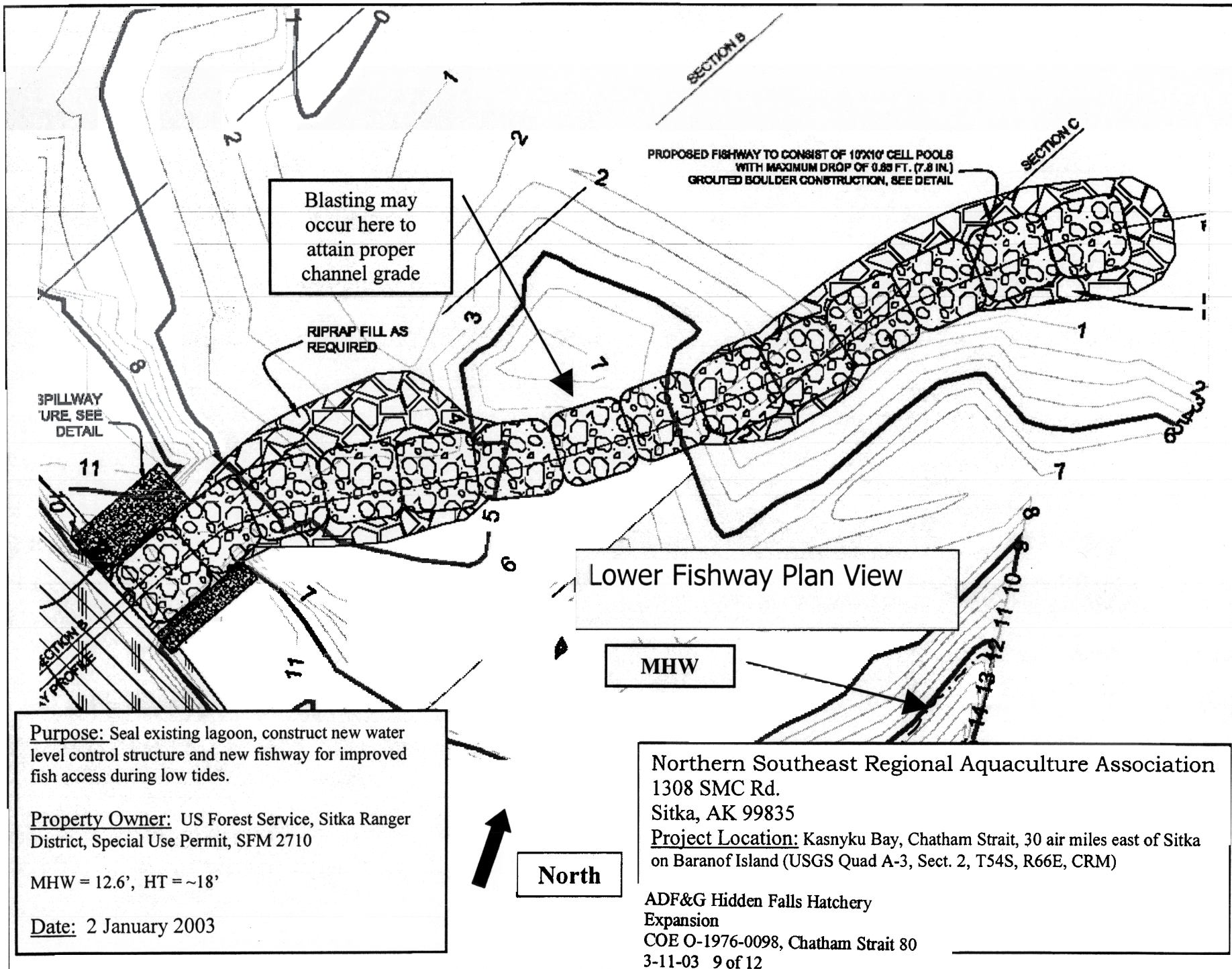
Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association

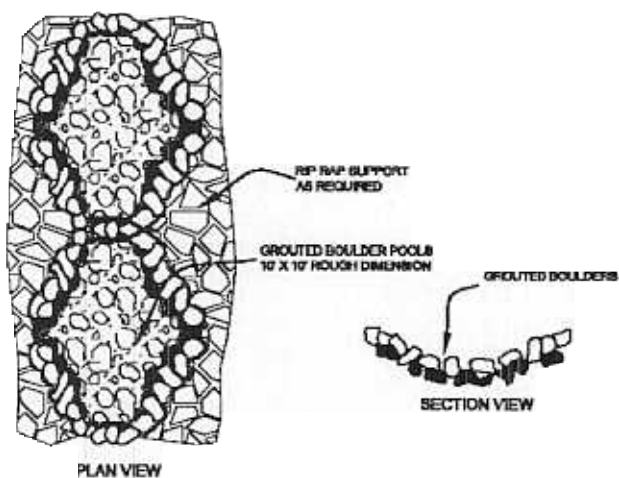
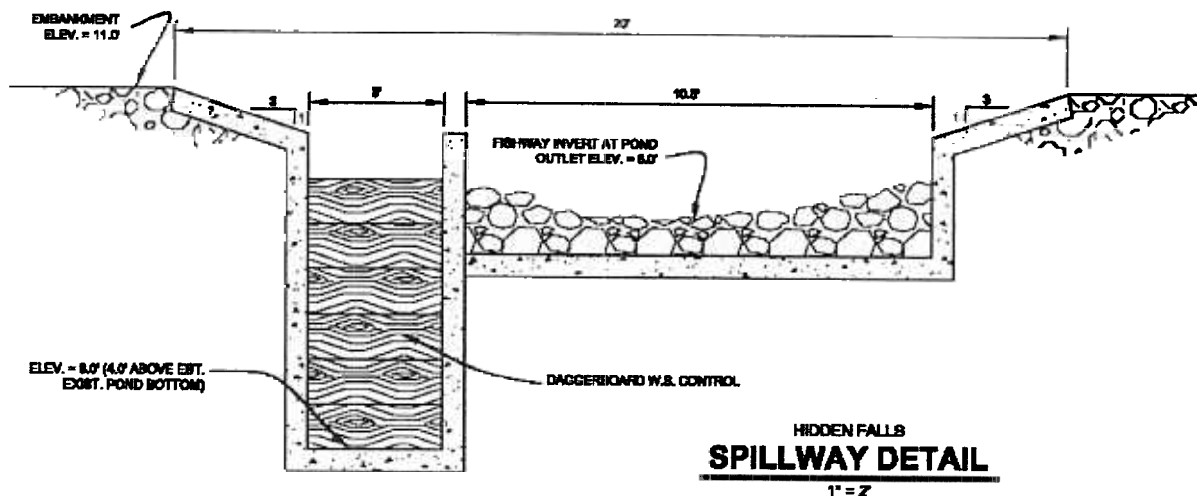
1308 SMC Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835

Project Location: Kasnyku Bay, Chatham Strait, 30 air miles east of Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS Quad A-3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion

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HIDDEN FALLS
GROUTED ROCK POOLS DETAIL
NTS

Purpose: Seal existing lagoon,
construct new water level control
structure and new fishway for improved
fish access during low tides.

Property Owner: US Forest Service,
Sitka Ranger District, Special Use
Permit, SFM 2710

Date: 2 January 2003

**Northern Southeast
Regional Aquaculture
Association**

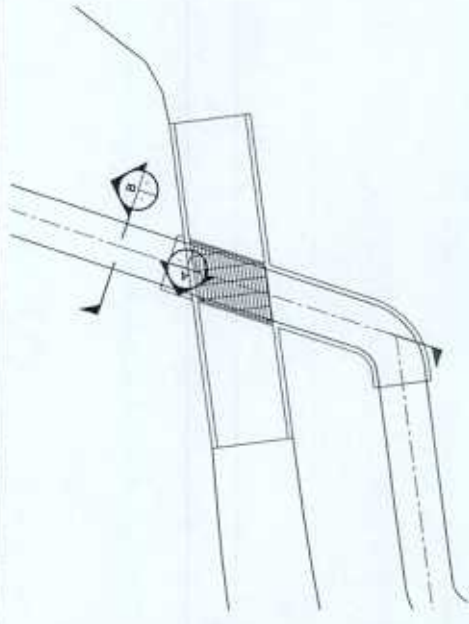
1308 SMC Rd.

Sitka, AK 99835

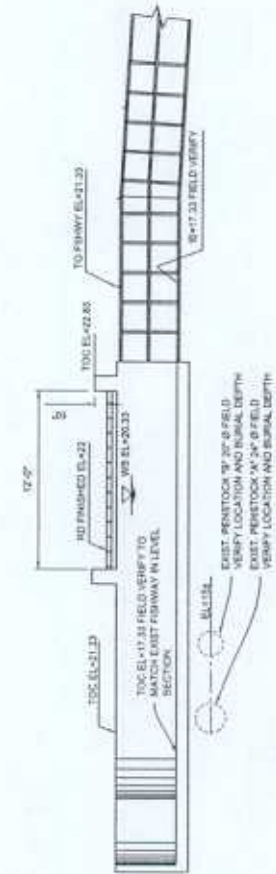
Project Location: Kasnyku Bay,
Chatham Strait, 30 air miles east of
Sitka on Baranof Island (USGS Quad A-
3, Sect. 2, T54S, R66E, CRM)

ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion

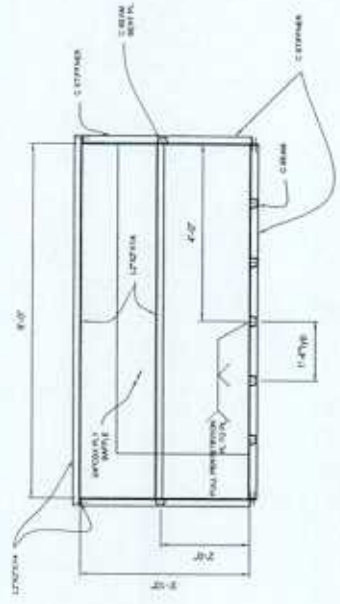
COE O-1976-0098, Chatham Strait 80
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DETAILED FISH WAY PLAN AT ROAD CROSSING
1" = 10'



ROAD CROSSING SECTION
1/4" = 1' 0"



FISHWAY SECTION
3/8" = 1' 0"

NOTE:
1. ASSEMBLE FLOOR PANELS SIDE BY SIDE TO FORM BOTTOM. SPACING FIELD 3" x 1/4" PANELS TO FORM A WATER TIGHT BOTTOM.
2. PROVIDE 1/2" x 2" CONTINUOUS WIRE DIMENSION @ BOTTOM OUTSIDE, INSIDE AND TOP @ 8" SPACING.



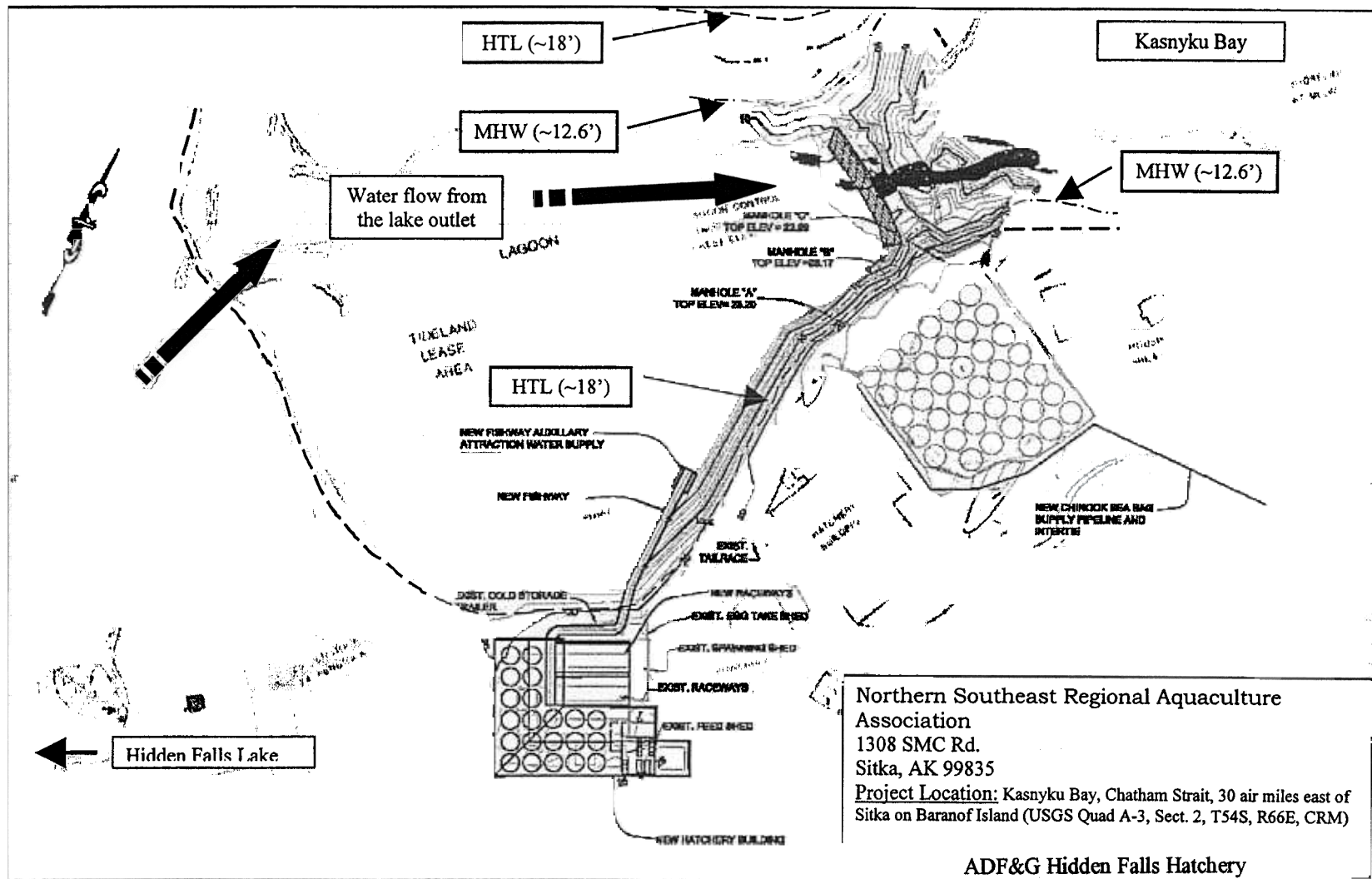
ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
Expansion
COE O-1976-0098, Chatham Strait 80
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REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK	APP

UPPER FISHWAY SECTIONS
HIDDEN FALLS COE AND CHADOCK SALMON HATCHERY EXPANSION
NORTHWEST ALASKA REGIONAL AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

C-7
DRAWING NO.



ADF&G Hidden Falls Hatchery
 Expansion
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STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

CENTRAL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 110030
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0030
PHONE: (907) 465-3562/FAX: (907) 465-3075

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE
ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Division of Governmental Coordination for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. O-1976-0098, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

This project is being reviewed for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Written comments about the consistency of the project with the applicable ACMP statewide standards and district policies must be submitted to the Alaska Division of Governmental Coordination. For information about this consistency review, contact DGC at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the DGC web site at <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html>.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Non-Point Source Control Section

401 Certification Program

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. O-1976-0098, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
410 Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1795
Telephone: (907) 465-5321
FAX: (907) 465-5274